(b) if so, the details alongwith locations thereof; and

(c) by when these institutes are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) Subject to the availability of resources, the Navy propose to set up an Amphibious Warfare Training School at Kakinada, in Andhra Pradesh. It is not possible to indicate any time frame for the implementation of the proposal.

Recovery of arms in Bombay, Gujarat and other parts of the country

1939. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any reports from our Coast Guards or Naval authorities about the interception of consignments of arms and explosives smuggled into the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) how these arms and explosives were smuggled into the country; and

(d) what effective steps have been taken by the Coast Guards and Navy to check the smuggling of arms and explosives into the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The CG or Navy have no direct knowledge about the smuggling of arms and explosives into the country.

(d) A joint surveillance operation has been launched by the CG & Navy to check the smuggling of arms & explosives into the country. The patrollig off the West Coast has been intensified in close coordination with the Coastal States.

Offer of pilotless aircraft from Israel

1940. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel has offered India its pilot less target aircraft;

(b) wheher Israel has also offered to jointly manufacture the aircraft;

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter; and

(d) what would be its impact on the development of indigenous pilotless target aircraft in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) There is no offer for a pilotless target aircraft from Israel. Some preliminary proposals for Unmanned Air Vehicles from Israel have been received. No other details can be divulged in the national security interest.

Crash of MiG-21 aircraft

1941. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Air Force MIG-21 fighter aircraft crashed at the Rajasansi airport on 27th April, 1993;

(b) if so, what has been the extent of loss of life and property on account of the crash; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to prevent the recurrence of such unfortunate incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) One IAF MIG-21 aircraft met with an accident at the Rajasansi airport on 27th April, 93. The aircraft suffered major damage due to collapse of the left under-carriage. There has been no other loss of life or property on account of this accident.

(c) Every accident is investigated by a Court of Inquiry comprising concerned specialists. Based on the recommendations of the Court of Inquiry, follow up action is taken to prevent recurrence of similar accidents. Whenever any adverse trend or weak area is observed, special joint studies are carried out with the help of specialists from the manufacturers and users to closely examine the problems and take suitable remedial measures.

Inquiry against IAF Officers

1942. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated the 29th April, 1993 under the caption "IAF Officer is facing persecution.";

(b) whether it is a fact that a section of defence forces have been siphoning out resources;

(c) whether Government would hold immediate investigation into the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate into the matter related to part (a) of the question.

(d) Progress of the Court of Inquiry is held up since Sqn. Ldr. Dabas, the main witness in the case is absent without leave and has not appeared to depose before the inquiry.

Casualities of defence personnel at Siachen glacier

1943. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casualties of Indian officers and men working at Siachin glacier during the last three-years;

(b) what is being done to prevent these casualties; and

(c) what are the causes of these casualties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) Due to the harshness of the terrain extreme cold weather and Pak firing, which is endemic, a limited number of casualties have occurred in the last three years.

Adequate precautions are taken to minimise the number of casualties. Before, induction, the troops are educated about the peculiarities of the high altitude environment. They are equipped with suitable clothing and given appropriate medical cover. The troops are inducted to the heights after gradual acclimatization.

Investment in electronic sector by Hong Kong based NRI's

1944. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the possibilities of wooing Hong Kong based NRI's for investment in India in electronic sector who are planning to leave Hong Kong well before its accession to China slated for 1997;

(b) whether Government would offer them as exclusive incentives package for establishment of electronic Hardware Technology Parks in India which offered